

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

March 22, 2002 LB 1236

control should have been exercised, and I think it got put on the back burner all the way around. Now I...I proposed initially that it be a state agency, and Senator Wehrbein filed his proposal following that, basically keeping it as a private entity. And I just think if...if we make a commitment in the state to continue the State Fair, continue funding the State Fair and things of that nature which is what's being requested of us in order to make this work, it seems to me we need the exercise of control by an administrative agency that we have some contact with. I think it's...I think it's very irresponsible of us, and it's been irresponsible for a long period of time. Nobody cared because it wasn't hurting us in a sense. We were still getting the...this operation was being handled with receipt of money from the racing industry and it wasn't a problem.

SENATOR JANSSEN PRESIDING

SENATOR JANSSEN: One minute.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: But now I think it's kind of like what else we're doing in here. We are having to evaluate a lot of things that have been done and determine whether or not those are appropriate actions. And the shortage of money creates a lot of concern about how you're going to do things, and I think that it's probably good that this has come up in this fashion. But I think that due to the magnitude of what we're talking about, and we have to assess...do we want a State Fair, are we willing to pay for a State Fair? But we do have the latitude even under the bill that's being proposed by Senator Wehrbein. It's a year before that's going to take effect, and it seems to me that on a short session where we're devoting so much of our effort to finances, that it's inappropriate, and for that reason, I have moved to bracket this bill. Thank you.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Pederson. Those wishing to speak on the bracket bill? Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature. The State Fairgrounds are in the 46th District, and I think Senator Pederson is right when he says that we have